

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NAIROB 01308 110801Z

43

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00

PRS-01 /019 W

----- 020819

R 101350Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7693

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 1308

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, US, KE

SUBJECT: MOMBASA PORT VISIT

THE FOLLOWING COMSEVENTHFLT MSG DTG 081536Z FEB 76 (NOTAL)  
IS REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L //NO5720//

MOMBASA PORT VISIT (U)

A. SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 022355Z JAN 76

B. AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 021330Z FEB 76

C. AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 021010Z JAN 76

1. (C) REF A PROVIDES PA GUIDANCE FOR USS FOX TASK GROUP  
REGARDING RELEASE OF INFORMATION ON INDIAN OCEAN DEPLOYMENT. REF  
B INDICATES CLEARANCE HAS BEEN GRANTED FOR PORT VISIT OF USS  
GRAY, USS HEPBURN AND USNS PASSUMPSIC 17-20 FEB 76 AND REF C  
INDICATES USS GARCIA PROPOSED VISIT 17-21 FEB 76, ALL TO  
MOMBASA KENYA.

2. (C)HIN VIEW RECENT INCIDENT NEAR DJIBOUTI AND UPI STORY ON  
SOMALI AMBASSADOR SAMANTAR STATEMENT ON AMERICAN AND FRENCH NAVAL  
FORCES MASSING OFF COASTS, AND RECOGNIZING KENYA GOVERNMENT POLICY  
ON NO PUBLICITY FOR MOMBAS  
SHIP VISITS (REF C REFERS),

IT IS BELIEVED THAT SOME PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION IS REQUIRED TO  
PREVENT UNTOWARD SPECULATION ON THIS SCHEDULED FOUR SHIP VISIT  
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PAGE 02 NAIROB 01308 110801Z

TO MOMBASA.

3. (C) SUBJECT TO COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCURRENCY BY AMEMBASSY NAIROBI, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE WITH CONTINGENCY Q'S AND A'S BE CLEARED FOR RELEASE BY AMEMBASSY NAIROBI ON 15 FEB '76: QUOTE. THE PACIFIC FLEET FRIGATES USS GRAY AND USS HEPBURN, MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND OILER USNS PASSUMPSIC AND MIDDLE EAST FORCE FRIGATE USS GARCIA WILL ARRIVE IN MOMBASA FOR A ROUTINE VISIT ON 17 FEB. THIS VISIT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR SEVERAL WEEKS TO PROVIDE REST AND RELAXATION FOR THE SHIPS' CREWS. PARA. THE SHIPS (LESS USS GARCIA) ARE MEMBERS OF AN INDIAN OCEAN TASK GRO COMMENDED BY CAPTAIN ROBERT E. WEEKS, USN, COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE GUIDED MISSILE CRUISER USS FOX. USS GARCIA IS ASSIGNED TO COMMANDER MIDDLE EAST FORCE, REAR ADMIRAL THOMAS J.BAGLEY, USN. UNQUOTE.

FOR USE IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRY ONLY:

Q1. HOW LONG WILL THE SHIPS BE IN PORT?

A1. THE SEVENTH FLEET SHIPS ARRIVE ON 17 FEB AND DEPART ON 20 FEB '76. USS GARCIA ARRIVES ON 17 FEB AND DEPARTS ON 21 FEB '76.

Q2. WHERE WILL THEY GO FROM HERE?

A2. WE DO NOT DISCUSS FUTURE OPERATIONAL MOVEMENTS.

Q3. WHAT OTHER PACIFIC FLEET SHIPS ARE IN THE TASK GROUP?

A3. USS FOX AND USS SAN JOSE.

Q4. WHERE ARE THE OTHER SHIPS AT THIS TIME?

A4. THE USS FOX IS VISITING PORT VICTORIA, SEYCHELLES 17-20 FEB '76. THE SAN JOSE IS CURRENTLY OPERATING AT SEA.

Q5. HOW ARE THE SHIPS RELATED TO THE PRESENT SITUATION IN SOMALIA?

A5. THERE IS NO CONNECTION. THE TASK FORCE IS COVDUCTING A ROUTINE DEPLOYMENT IN THE INDIAN OCEAN-5 THE VISIT OF THESE SHIPS TO MOMBASA HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR SEVERAL WEEKS.

Q6. WHAT IS THE TOTAL NUMWR OF U.S. PACIFIC FLEET SHIPS IN TTEYM INDIAN OCEAN?

A6. THE PACIFIC FLEET HAS THE FIVE-SHIP TASK GROUP IMPRISED OF THE SHIPS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED.

Q7. ARE THERE ANY MARINES ON THE PACIFIC FLEET SHIPS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN?

A7. NO.

Q8. WHY IS THE USS GARCIA ALSO HERE AT THE SAME TIME? IS THERE ANY CONNECTION.

A8. THERE IS NO CONNECTION. THE GARCIA IS ALSO HERE ON A ROUTINE VISIT. THE GARCIA'S PORT VISIT HAS BEEN PLANNED FOR SOME CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 NAIROB 01308 110801Z

TIME AND THE SHIP'S SCHEDULES HAPPENED TO COINCIDE. ANY QUESTIDFS BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THIS GUIDANCE SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO COMSEVENTHFLT FOR COORDINATION WITH HIGHER AUTHORITY.

4. (U) FOR AMEMBASSY NAIROBI: REQUEST PROVIDE COMMENTS AND ANY RECOMMENDATIONS OR DESIRED CHANGES TO PRESS RELEASE AND CONTINGENCY Q'S AND A'S.

GDS-82

UNQUOTE  
MARSHALL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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